

*I am
a Negro*

"I Came That They Might Have Life"

PROGRAM OUTLINE

FOR GIRLS' MISSIONARY SOCIETIES

Based on
IN THE VANGUARD OF A RACE

Prepared by
CORINNE BOWERS

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Woman's Missionary Society of the Reformed Church in
the U. S., Carrie M. Kerschner, Reformed Church Building,
15th and Race Sts., Philadelphia, Pa., and W. M. S., 14
Remmle Block, Tiffin, Ohio.



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GENERAL SUGGESTIONS

It is suggested that for the chapters dealing with Educational Institutions, any catalogues and material published by said institution be procured, for use on posters and in other ways.

Books suggested for collateral reading are: "Up from Slavery," by B. T. Washington, "Souls of Black Folk," by Dr. Dubois, poems by Dunbar and Cotter, and the June number of the Missionary Review of the World.

Victrola Records of Mr. Burleigh's various musical compositions and arrangements of the famous Negro spirituals, will add to the program. Some of the best known of these are: "Deep River," "All Our Children Got Shoes," "Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen," and of Mr. Burleigh's songs, "Little Mother of Mine," "Jean," and "The Young Warrior."

A hymn has been suggested for each chapter. If the program is followed as arranged, all the hymns need not be used unless desired. The hymns have been chosen from the "Missionary Hymnal" published by the Board of Foreign Missions, 15th and Race Sts., Philadelphia, Pa.

There should be no less than five or six copies of the book in the society, that each girl taking part in a chapter may read the whole chapter for herself and have time to get thoroughly familiar with her part.

An effort should be made to have the girls who are to take part in each program get together beforehand and talk it over and make arrangements, that there may be continuity of thought at the meeting. They should also pray together about the program, coming before the meeting opens in order to have time for this.

The principal value of this program will be lost if the girls READ the parts assigned to them. Each one should be impressed with the thought that she must TELL the story to make it effective.

The general aim of this book is to make us realize what the Negroes can do, if they are given the opportunity.

"I slept, I dreamed, I seemed to climb a hard ascending track,
And just behind me labored one whose face was black,
I pitied him, but hour by hour he gained upon my path,
He stood beside me, stood upright, and then I turned in wrath.
'Go back,' I cried, 'what right have you to stand beside me here?'
I paused, struck dumb with fear, for lo! the black man was not
there,

But Christ stood in his place!

And Oh! the pain, the pain, the pain, that looked from that dear
Face!"

GENERAL SUGGESTIONS FOR CHAPTERS

Chapter I. The long climb of the races.

Let no man think that sudden, in a minute,

All is accomplished and the work is done,

Tho' with thine earliest dawn thou didst begin it,

Scarce were it ended in thy setting sun.

—Myers "St. Paul."

Chart showing a winding, up-hill road and, if possible, climbing figures. (Cut from some magazine). In center or side, the above verse, or the verse "I slept, I dreamed."

Chapter II. Saving minds and hearts.

Pictures and posters of Hampton and Tuskegee. If a graduate of Tuskegee lives in your town and can tell about the school, it would add greatly to the value of the program.

Chapter III. Saving bodies.

Chart with statistics regarding Negro health. Can be gotten from any Red Cross Headquarters or Tuberculosis Clinic. Infant mortality, lack of resistance to tuberculosis, etc. A picture or two of hospital or health activities.

Chapter IV. The woman who saved an idea.

Pictures and posters of Miss Burrough's National Training School, Washington, D. C.

Chapter V. Saving souls.

Make a poster with a picture of a handsome church, with John 12:32 in large lettering.

Chapter VI. Saving happiness.

Cut out figures of many colored children and paste on posters in a circle, facing central figure of Christ (picture of Christ blessing children would be good). Words above from John 10:10.

Chapter VII. Building prosperity in the country.

For poster, have pictures of farm scenes, cotton picking, etc. Picture of John Pierce in center, and words "He let His light shine."

Chapter VIII. Building prosperity in the city.

Poster showing picture of a bank building, with words from Prov. 22:6.

Chapter IX. Saving beauty. An open meeting.

Invitation poster. A bar of Negro song, possibly "Swanee River" and the Invitation in large lettering. For this chapter some of the spirituals and other songs should be prepared, led, if possible, by a colored person who knows them well and knows music, or a group of colored people might be asked to sing and play.

Chapter X. A light in darkness.

This meeting can also be used as an open meeting. For poster have an outline of the map of Africa darkened, with the sun rising over it. The face of Christ in the center of the sun. Words above, "I am the light of the World." Try to have some African curios and the villages and models used in connection with the African study books of several years ago. The little African play, "Lighting the Dark Continent," (published by the Central Committee on United Study of Foreign Missions, West Medford, Mass.) might be given by the Mission Band Children in connection with this chapter.

Chapter XI. Building foundations of rock.

See poster for last chapter.

Chapter XII. A seed of flame.

Poster with words at top, "The greatest of these is love." Use again the verse "I slept, I dreamed." Poetry should be read or recited. All these people have been thinking of others of their race, and how to serve them and how to make the races understand each other. Will we do as much as they?

MARCH.

Part I. Chapter I. The long hard climb.

Scripture Lesson. Matt. 7:1-5; Rom. 14:10, 12; Phil. 3:13-15.

Prayer thought. That we may be patient with those who have not climbed as far as we have, appreciative of their efforts and progress, and helpful in the truest sense.

Hymn. "Stand up for Jesus."

In pageant form let three girls present this chapter, which has been advertised by a good poster. Choose girls for this who can adapt the thought in the book, and give it in their own words, as though it were their own personal story, using, of course, personal pronouns.

1. Represents England. Tells how each race has to climb the long slow way, and then how she herself was at first, and how she was overcome by the sweeping hordes from the North. Pages 1, 2.

2. The new White Race tells of her growth, from wild, uncouth beginnings (told in an excited way) to the development gradually attained, but stressing finally that all is not yet completed. Pages 2-9.

3. Use, if possible, an intelligent, wide awake colored girl, who has some consciousness of the problem, and can put the thought over. If such a girl is not available, dress one of your own girls in black draperies with face darkened. She tells of what her race has done in Africa, of the handicap of slavery, and the great power of her race. Of how the black race must climb even as the white race did, ending with a plea that the white race help, not hinder, and that we see in what they have done a foreshadowing of what they can do. Pages 9-15.

Part II. Chapter II. Saving minds and hearts.

Scripture Lesson. John 13:3-17.

Prayer thought. That people may be brought to see the necessity of adequate education for the Negro, and that we may ourselves come to an intelligent conclusion on the subject, so that we can stand for what we believe.

Hymn. "Savior Teach Me Day By Day."

What is Tuskegee? To be told. Pages 16-18.

The story of Booker Washington told. Pages 18-23.

What sort of school, and where is Hampton? For a girl to look up. See page 20.

The Negro idea of education vs. Mr. Washington's. Why does the Negro need these things? Pages 23-26 (top).

Mr. Washington with White and Colored folks, and the secret of his success. To be taken from pages 26-29 (bottom).

The story of the man who followed, as one torch lit from another. Pages 29-34.

Calendar Prayer.

Hostess

Leader

APRIL.**Part I. Chapter III. Saving bodies.**

Scripture Lesson. Mark 6:54-56; 12:1.

Prayer thought. That we may realize that a healthy body is a Christian duty, and that well men can be better citizens and can work and serve better than can sick ones.

Hymn. "Thou to Whom the Sick and Dying."

Charles Roman, a little boy, how he played and dreamed and the way he did his work. Pages 35-40.

How he made his dream come true. Pages 40 (middle) -42

What he did with his dream and why he was loved by his students. Pages 42 (top) 43.

How he feels about white and black people, and what is our part. Pages 43 (bottom) -46.

Part II. Chapter IV. The woman who saved an idea.

Scripture Lesson. Matt. 17:20; John 14:12-14; Heb. 11:1-3

Prayer thought. That all girls may have a chance to find the path of happiness and service, and that we realize more fully what prayer can do.

Hymn. "Father, Now We Hear Thee Calling."

Nannie Burroughs, and how she got her big idea. Pages 47-49.

What she did to lead up, and how she felt about Christians. Did she stop because she could not get what she wanted right away? Pages 49-51.

Hindrances. What did the church women want? Pages 51-52.

The idea used at last. Pages 52-58.

What the War did. Pages 58-59.

How Nannie Burroughs gets things and what she wants for her people. From pages 59-62.

Part III. Chapter V. Saving souls.

Scripture Lesson. Jonah 1:1-3; 3:1-3; John 12:32.

Prayer thought. That we seek to recognize God's will for our lives, and glorify Him for what His colored children have done for Him.

Hymn. "Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak."

What another little boy did at home, and what made him do it. Pages 63-66.

How he got through school. Pages 66-71.

The old idea of his boyhood, and what became of it and him. Pages 71-73.

Where he stayed, and what was done there. Did he choose well? Pages 73-77.

Calendar Prayer.

Hostess

Leader

MAY.**Part I. Chapter VI. Saving happiness.**

Scripture Lesson. John 10:7-10.

Prayer thought. That we may be given wisdom to choose the things that make for true happiness, and realize that we cannot find happiness alone. That we may truly want all the world to be happy, and be willing to work to that end.

Hymn. "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart."

Janie's fairy godmother. Pages 77-80.

How Janie began to save happiness. Pages 80 (last paragraph) 83.

How Janie got more happiness. Pages 83-85.

Saving happiness for other people. Did it mean more for herself or not? How does Love work? Pages 85-87 (top).

The new branch of the tree of happiness. Pages 87-89.

Janie's great test and her answer. Pages 89 (middle) 91.

What the War brought here, and how Peake helps to make fewer prisons. Pages 91-93.

Part II. Chapter VII. Building prosperity in the country.

Scripture Lesson. Chron. 26:1, 4, 10; Matt. 5:14-16.

Prayer thought. That we realize that the white race cannot be safe while the black is degraded. That we truly try to work with the colored people, not for them.

Hymn. "Ye Servants of God."

Why does colored prosperity help white people? Pages 94-95.

How John Pierce got his vision and made himself ready. Pages 95 (middle) -99.

Showing the country people the better way. Extracts from pages 99-104.

- 1—County agents' work.
- 2---Crops.
- 3—Schools.

Cooperation and what it means to whites and blacks. Pages 104-105.

John Pierce's own story of the light that led him. Pages 106-107.

Part III. Chapter VIII. Building prosperity in the city.

Scripture Lesson. Prov. 22:4-6; Mark 11:22-24.

Prayer thought. That we love our fellow men and have as much faith as did this woman.

Hymn. "Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult."

The bank Maggie Walker built and how she came to do it. Pages 108-113.

What the bank does for children, training for future generations. Pages 113-114.

Mrs. Walker and Nannie Burroughs. Pages 116-118.

What Maggie Walker's sons say. Page 118.

Calendar Prayer.

Hostess

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JUNE.**An Open Meeting.****Chapter IX. Saving beauty.**

Scripture Lesson. Ps. 96.

Prayer thought. That we thank God for the musical soul of the Negro, and learn to praise our Father with the best talents we have.

Hymn. "Crown Him With Many Crowns."

Henry Burleigh's background and his early youth. Pages 119-121 (bottom).

His first taste of fine music, and his first sight of his future benefactress. Pages 121 to 123.

Burleigh, the student. Pages 123 (top) -124 (middle).

Burleigh recognized. Pages 124-126.

What he saved for the world. The gift of his race to music. Pages 126 (middle) -127.

Songs--Jean.

The Young Warrior. (Described beforehand from page 128).

Little Mother of Mine.

Violin numbers from page 129 (bottom).

What Burleigh might have done. Page 130.

Calendar Prayer.

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JULY.**Chapter X. A light in darkness.**

Scripture Lesson. Matt. 9:36-38; Mark 16:15.

Prayer thought. That we be willing to go to light the dark continent if God wills, that we be helped to remember to pray for it, and thank God for the work and missionaries there.

Hymn. "O Zion, Haste."

The dark years of Negro education in the South and now Martha Drummer went to school. Pages 131-135.

What she wanted most and where she went. Pages 135-138.

How she talked to the people at home. Page 141.

African adventures. Pages 141 (middle) -147. Emphasize pages 146 (bottom) -147.

The African play, "Lighting the Dark Continent." can be given here by the Mission Band Children.

AUGUST.**Part I. Chapter XI. Building foundations of rock.**

Scripture Lesson. Ex. 3:1-12; 4:1, 10, 12.

Prayer thought. That the Negro find the true God, the only Way.

Hymn. "In the Cross of Christ I Glory."

Privileges and difficulties of freed slaves. Pages 148-151 (top).

James Dunston, the boy, and what his life meant to him. First page of 148, then pages 151-153 (top).

His first successes. Pages 153-154 (top).

His great desires.

1—To preach.

2—To help the people to get on their feet. Pages 154-157.

James Dunston's best work and his idea of what Christianity means. Pages 157 (middle) -160.

What is necessary for real service. Pages 160 (bottom) -161.

Quote paragraph "It was this simple—."

Part II. Chapter XII. A Seed of Flame.

Scripture Lesson. Luke 6:27-31; Cor. 13:4-10

Prayer thought. That we open our hearts to the beauty and hopefulness in the Negro character, that we be filled with the desire to help him as his leaders desire to help their brothers; and above all, that we humble ourselves that we may not stand in his light, or turn him from Christ because of anything we say or may not do.

Hymn. "Love Divine."

Some great writers and poets, and why there are not more.
Pages 162-163 (middle).

Where the Divine Spark of Heavenly Flame fell.

Three girls.

1—The grandmother. Page 163-164.

2—The father, Joseph Cotter. Pages 163-166.

3—The boy, Joseph Cotter. Pages 163, then middle of
166-169.

Why was he popular? Page 167.

What he knew. Page 168.

The best the Negro has to give. Pages 168-169.

During his illness and the War. Pages 169-173.

His spirit. (One girl to announce headings). Page 170.

Poem, "The Goal." (To be read by first girl.

His joy. Page 171.

"Rain Music." (By second girl.)

Love of his friends, and hope for his race. Page 172.

"To the Negro Soldiers." (By third girl.)

What he knew and how he faced it. Page 173 (bottom) 174.

"And what shall YOU say?"

Our Task. Pages 174 (bottom) -176. By an older girl.

Calendar Prayer.

Hostess

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